



Climate Smart Kingston Commission
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
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DRAFT Minutes to the Climate Smart Kingston Commission Meeting, July 26, 2017
Kingston City Hall, Council Chambers 4:30-6:00 PM

Commission Members (Voting): Elizabeth Broad (excused), Pat Courtney Strong (not present), Michael D'Arcy (excused), Emilie Hauser, Nick Hvozda (excused), Kevin McEvoy (Secretary), Sarina Pepper, Karen Sullivan, John Wackman, Casey Schwarz

Commission Members (Non-Voting): Amanda LaValle (Ulster County Dept of the Environment; not present)

Ex-Officio Members: Suzanne Cahill (Kingston Planning Dept.; not present), Brenna Robinson (Kingston Community & Economic Development, excused), Julie Noble (Kingston Parks & Recreation, Commission Chairperson), Bill Carey (City of Kingston Common Council- not present), NYS Assembly Member Kevin Cahill represented by Jillian Nodiak (not present), Kingston City Engineer (not present), Joe Chenier (Kingston Dept of Public Works; not present)

Guests: Azriel Alleyne

- I. Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:45pm. Azriel commented on the Public Service Commission System Interconnection Requirements (SIR) application process through the utility company for solar projects and discussed financing either through community aggregation subscribers or through investors.
- II. Review and Approval June 2017 Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Casey Schwarz and seconded by Commissioner Karen Sullivan, the voting commissioners presented unanimously approved the minutes to the June meeting.
- III. Old Business**
 - 1. City CFA Grants:** The Chairperson has prepared the application for the Organic Waste Plan. If the funding is granted, the City will be working to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to achieve several components of an organics waste collection plan for Kingston. As part of this project, municipal components will include: adopt a waste management strategy for government-hosted and permitted events (e.g., parades, festivals, etc.) as well to develop a plan to provide organic waste collection and composting in local government buildings. For City residents, a plan will be developed to provide compost bins to residents (for sale or free) and to plan for and create an organics or yard waste collection program. Additionally, funds will be applied to design a local government waste audit and track diversion rate over time. Letters of support were approved by unanimous acclamation for the foregoing application and the following CFA applications as follows:
 - a. Franklin Street Complete Streets Project
 - b. Green Innovation for Midtown Parking Lots Green Upgrades
 - c. Rondout Riverport Shoreline Stabilization Phase 1
 - d. Waterfront Empire State Trail ImprovementsThe six voting Commissioners were evenly split and did not reach a decision regarding a letter of support for the for Kingston Point Park Infrastructure Improvements Phase 2 grant application due to concerns over whether an item in

the grant application for mitigation of the flooding in the parking lot was consistent with Sea Level Rise Task Force recommendations. The voting Commissioners approved the Kingston Point Passenger Boat Landing Design and Planning by a 5 to 1 vote.

2. **Unified Solar Permit:** Tabled except to note that the permit application is now uploaded to the City website.
3. **65-85 East Strand:** Commissioner Emilie Hauser discussed the floodplain with regards to this project. The Planning Board asked for more information. The project is being looked at by the County. This will be continued for follow up.

IV. New Business

1. **Joint Energy Efficiency and Solarize Campaign:** Tabled
2. **Facebook Page:** Commissioner Sarina Pepper discussed the outreach message on the Commission Facebook page. This will be put on the August agenda.

V. Announcements/Communications/Events/Updates

1. **Sustainable Saturday Planning Team:** Tabled
2. **Portfolio Manager Benchmarking and Energy Tracking:** Tabled
3. **Conference on the Environment Planning:** The Chairperson provided an update on conference planning for November 3rd and 4th.
4. **Residential Energy Efficiency Campaign Working Group:** Tabled
5. **Mid-Hudson Street Light Consortium:** Tabled
6. **Ulster County Climate Smart Committee:** Azriel attended and provided a report. Regarding solar, Public Service Commission (PSC) Matter of the Value of Distributed Energy Resources (a.k.a. VDER; PSC Case # 15-E-7-51) resulting from the March 9, 2017 PSC Order on Net Metering was discussed as having been in a recent comment period with the next phase inaugural working group sessions to now commence. Other items on the agenda included the Streetlight Consortium with respect to municipal street lighting as well as other renewable energy related matters.
7. **Sea Level Rise Implementation Learning Group:** The next and last meeting will be August 29 in Beacon. The scope is expected to include identifying locations for green infrastructure, drafting a flood guide and updating the City website for climate initiatives.

- VI. Adjournment:** The Commissioners present adjourned the meeting by unanimous acclamation at 6:04pm.